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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/605,810

10/29/2003

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EXAMINER

DICKER, DENNIS T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2625

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DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/605,810

Applicant(s)

SUZUKI ET AL.

Examiner

Dennis Dicker

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3 and 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hull et al. (hereinafter "Hull '477" 5,978,477) in view of Hibino et al (hereinafter "Hibino '675")

With respect to **Claim 1**, Hull '477 teaches an image transmission device (i.e., **110 of Fig. 1, Facsimile Machine**) that transmits image data to one or a plurality of devices (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 44-48, document is faxed to the entered telephone number**) that are capable of receiving configured to receive image data (i.e., **Col 6 Lines 42-43, Number entered is to send the document to a device configured to receive a fax**) and which is connected to an external stand-alone transmission data management computer being external relative to the image transmission device (i.e., **108 of Fig. 1 , Fax machine connected to external Document Management Workstation**) and different from the one or plurality of devices (i.e., **Fig 1, Document Management Device is different from other devices**), the image transmission device

Art Unit: 2625

comprising: a transmittee data acquisition unit (i.e., **Facsimile machine comprises a user interface, Col. 6 Lines 40-41**) that acquires transmittee data (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 42-43, Transmittee data is the telephone number which is entered into the keypad on the user interface**), the transmittee data being data identifying the transmittee and the corresponding one or plurality of devices (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 42-43 , The number entered corresponds to the telephone number of the of the transmittee and the device where the fax will be sent**);

a first transmission unit (i.e., **706 of Fig. 7, Modem**) that transmits image data to one or a plurality of transmittee devices indicated by the transmittee data (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 47-48, Image data is sent to a transmittee device indicated by telephone number**), the image data (i.e., **Col. 5 Lines 57, binary pixel data representation**) being generated from a scanned image of an original document or being generated by a computer (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 55-56, an original document is scanned in by the scanner included in the fax machine and represented by binary pixel data**); and

a second transmission unit (i.e., **712 of Fig. 7, Network Interface**) that transmits the transmitted image data transmitted to the one or plurality of transmittee devices by the first transmission unit (i.e., **Col. 7 Lines 1-2, Network interface sends original document representation**) to the external stand-alone transmission data management computer (i.e., **Col 7 Lines 2-3, Network Interface sends data to the external document management workstation for archiving**).

Hull '477 does not explicitly teach a transmission device where transmittee data is attached to image data.

However, the mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Hibino '675. In particular, Hibino '675 teaches the use of a device where transmittee data is attached to image data (**i.e., Fig. 9B and Para 0197, Image data has recipient data attached and stored**).

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the image transmission device of Hull '477 as taught by Hibino '675 that such a modification would help classify such documents when stored in a database.

With respect to **Claim 2**, Hull '477 teaches an image transmission device further comprising a reading unit that reads images from original documents (**i.e., 702 of Fig. 7 and Col. 6 Lines 55-56, fax machine comprising a scanner which scans original documents**), an the first transmission unit (**i.e., 706 of Fig. 7, Modem**) and the second transmission unit (**i.e., 712 of Fig. 7, Network Interface**) transmits image data read by the reading unit to the transmittee device and the external stand-alone transmission data management computer (**i.e., Image data ready by the scanner is transmitted to the transmittee device and the external document management workstation, Col 6 Lines 48-52**).

With respect to **Claim 3**, Hull '477 an image transmission device according to claim 2, further comprising an operation unit (**i.e., Col. 6 Lines 40-44, keypad**) that inputs the transmittee data (**i.e., Col. 6 Lines 42-43, the telephone number is entered in the keypad**), and wherein the transmittee data acquisition unit (**i.e., Fig. 6, User Interface**) acquires transmittee data that were input from the operation unit (**i.e., Col 6**

Art Unit: 2625

Lines 40-44, User Interface 600 acquires transmittee data entered into the keypad 604).

With respect to **Claim 6**, Hull '477 an image transmission device wherein the one or plurality of devices configured to receive image data is a facsimile device (**i.e., Col. 66 Lines 42-43, modem faxes data to a facsimile device**), and the first transmission unit (**i.e., 706 of Fig. 7, Modem**) is connected to the facsimile device via a public telephone line and an exchange (**i.e., 708 of Fig. 7, modem connected to a telephone line which is connected to an exchange**).

With respect to **Claim 7**, Hull '477 an image transmission device wherein the external device is at least one selected from the group consisting of a computer (**i.e., Col. 7 Lines 16-19, External device being the document management workstation can be a computer system**) and the receiving unit is connected to at least one of the computer, printer, and scanner via a network (**i.e., 112 and 110 of Fig 1, Fax machine comprising a receiving unit which receive an original document is connected to a Printer**)

With respect to **Claim 8**, Hull '477 teaches an image transmission device wherein the first transmission unit transmits image data (**i.e., 706 and 712 of Fig. 7, Data sent through first transmission unit must be sent through second transmission unit to get to get to external data management computer as shown in Fig. 1 of applicants drawings**), and transmitter data to the external stand-alone transmission data management computer (**i.e., Col. 7 Lines 6-9, Image data and transmitter data are sent to the document management computer**).

Art Unit: 2625

Hull '477 does not explicitly teach a transmission device where transmittee data is attached to image data.

However, the mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Hibino '675. In particular, Hibino '675 teaches the use of a device where transmittee data is attached to image data **(i.e., Fig. 9B and Para 0197, Image data has recipient data attached and stored)**.

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the image transmission device of Hull '477 as taught by Hibino '675 that such a modification would help classify such documents when stored in a database.

With respect to **Claim 9**, A transmission data management system **(i.e., Fig. 1)**, comprising: an image transmission device **(i.e., 110 of Fig. 1, Facsimile Machine)** that transmits image data to one or a plurality of devices **(i.e., Col. 6 Lines 44-48, document is faxed to the entered telephone number)** configured to receive image data **(i.e., Col 6 Lines 42-43, Number entered is to send the document to a device configured to receive a fax)**; an external stand-alone transmission data management computer **(i.e., 108 of Fig. 1, Document Management Workstation)** being external relative to the image transmission device **(i.e., 108 of Fig. 1, Fax machine connected to external Document Management Workstation)** and different from the one or plurality of devices **(i.e., Fig 1, Document Management Device is different from other devices)**, the external stand-alone transmission data management computer stores data transmitted from the image transmission device **(i.e., Col 6 Line 65- Col. 7**

Art Unit: 2625

Line 3, data is transmitted from the data transmission device to the document management workstation); and

a network (i.e., **Col. 1 Lines 39-40, LAN**) that connects the image transmission device and the external stand-alone transmission data management computer (i.e., **LAN connects Facsimile device to Document Management Workstation**); the image transmission device comprising a transmittee data acquisition unit (i.e., **Fig. 6, User Interface**) that acquires transmittee data (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 42-43, Transmittee data is the telephone number which is entered into the keypad on the user interface**) the transmittee data being data identifying the transmittee and the corresponding one or plurality of devices (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 42-43 , The number entered corresponds to the telephone number of the of the transmittee and the device where the fax will be sent**),

a first transmission unit (i.e., **706 of Fig. 7 , Modem**) that transmits image data to the one or plurality of transmittee devices indicated by the transmittee data (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 47-48 , Image data is sent to a transmittee device indicated by telephone number**), the image data (i.e., **Col. 5 Lines 57, binary pixel data representation**) being generated from a scanned image of an original document (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 55-56 , an original document is scanned in by the scanner included in the fax machine and represented by binary pixel data**), and

a second transmission unit (i.e., **712 of Fig. 7 , Network Interface**) that transmits the transmitted image data transmitted to the one or plurality of transmittee devices by the first transmission unit (i.e., **Col. 7 Lines 1-2, Network interface sends original**

Art Unit: 2625

document representation) to the external stand-alone transmission data management computer (i.e., **Col 7 Lines 2-3, Network Interface sends data to the external document management workstation for archiving).**

and the external stand-alone transmission data management computer associates the image data transmitted from the image transmission device with the transmitter data and stores the same (i.e., **Col. 7 Lines 6-9, Image data and transmitter data are both sent to the document management computer where they are stored).**

Hull '477 does not explicitly teach a transmission system where transmittee data are attached to image data and an external stand-alone transmission data management computer associates the image data transmitted with the transmittee data.

However, the mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Hibino '675, In particular, Hibino '675 teaches the use of a device where transmittee data is attached to image data (i.e., **Fig. 9B and Para 0197, Image data has recipient data attached and stored).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the image transmission device of Hull '477 as taught by Hibino '675 that such a modification would help index such documents when stored in a database and would organize documents for faster and easier retrieval.

Art Unit: 2625

4. Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hull '477 in view of Hibino '675 and further in view of O'Shaughnessy et al. (hereinafter "O '302" 7,219,302).

With respect to **Claim 10**, Hull '477 teaches a transmission data management system (i.e., **Fig. 1**), wherein the external stand-alone transmission data management computer (i.e., **108 of Fig. 1, Document Management Workstation**)

Hull '477 does not explicitly teach a transmission data management system that classifies and stores image data for each transmittee based upon the transmittee data.

However, the mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by O '302. In particular, O '302 teaches the use of a **system which** classifies and stores image data for each transmittee based upon the transmittee data (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 16-19, Data sent by fax is archived and classified by recipient**)

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the System of Hull '477 as taught by O '302 since O '302 suggested in Col 4 Lines 13-21 that such a modification would allow a user to store and access all the files easier.

With respect to **Claim 11**, Hull '477 teaches a transmission data management system (i.e., **Fig. 1**), wherein the first transmission unit of the image transmission device (i.e., **706 of Fig. 7, Modem**) transmits image data (i.e., **706 and 712 of Fig. 7, Data sent through first transmission unit must be sent through second transmission unit to get to external data management computer as shown in Fig. 1 of applicants drawings**), to the external stand-alone transmission data management

Art Unit: 2625

computer (i.e., **Col. 7 Lines 6-9, Image data and transmitter data are sent to the document management computer**).

Hull '477 does not teach a system where the external stand-alone transmission data management computer classifies and stores image data for each transmittee and each transmitter.

However, the mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by O '302, In particular, O '302 teaches the use of a **system which** classifies and stores image data for each transmittee based upon the transmittee data (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 16-19, image Data sent by fax is archived and classified by sender/recipient**).

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the System of Hull '477 as taught by O '302 since O '302 suggested in Col 4 Lines 13-21 that such a modification would allow a user to store and access all the files easier.

5. Claims 4-5 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hull '477 in view of Hibino '675 and further in view of Hirata et al. (hereinafter "Hirata '582" 5,289,582)

With respect to **Claim 4**, and wherein the first transmission unit (i.e., **706 of Fig. 7, Modem**) and the second transmission unit (i.e., **712 of Fig. 7, Network Interface**) transmit image data to the transmittee device (i.e., **Fig. 7 of Hull '477, data sent to a transmittee device must always be sent though first transmission unit as shown**

Art Unit: 2625

in Fig. 1 of applicant drawings) and the external stand-alone transmission data management computer (i.e., Col 7 Lines 2-3, Network Interface sends data to the external document management workstation for archiving and data transmitted by the first transmission device must always be sent though second transmission unit as shown in Fig. 1 of applicant drawings).

Hull '477 does not explicitly teach the use of a receiving unit that receives image data.

However, the mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Hirata '582, In particular, Hirata '582 teaches the use of an image transmission device (i.e., 3 of Fig. 5, Communication Control Unit) further comprising a receiving unit (i.e., 31 of Fig. 5, Interface Unit) that receives image data from an external device that has image data (i.e., Col. 6 Lines 61-64, Interface receives image data from the Host),

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the device of Hull '477 as taught by Hibino '675 and Hirata '582 since Hirata '582 suggested in Col. 1 Lines 49-68 that such a modification would provide an improved communication control unit.

With respect to **Claim 5**, Hull '477 teaches an image transmission device (i.e., **110 of Fig. 1, Fax Machine**),

Hull '477 does not teach an image transmission device wherein the receiver receives image data and transmittee data from the external device and the transmittee data acquisition unit acquires transmittee data transmitted from the external device

Art Unit: 2625

However, the mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Hirata '582, In particular, Hirata '582, teaches the use of an image transmission device (i.e., **3 of Fig. 5, Communication Control Unit**) wherein the receiver (i.e., **31 of Fig. 5, Interface Unit**) receives (i.e., **Col. 6 Lines 61-64, Interface receives data from the Host**) image data (i.e., **Col. 2 Lines 61, image data from the host**) and transmittee data (i.e., **Col 2 Line 61, Control instruction from the host**) from the external device (i.e., **Col 2 Lines 60-62 , Data is transferred from host to the communication unit**) and the transmittee data acquisition unit (i.e., **33 of Fig. 5 , CPU**) acquires transmittee data transmitted from the external device (i.e., **Col 8 Lines 1-3 , CPU receives the telephone number from the host**)

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the device of Hull '477 as taught by Hibino '675 and Hirata '582 since Hirata '582 suggested in Col. 1 Lines 49-68 that such a modification would provide an improved communication control unit.

With respect to **Claim 12**, The transmission data management system (i.e., **Fig. 1**) further comprising at least one additional external stand-alone computer (i.e., **102 of Fig. 1, Client System**) that is connected to the external stand-alone transmission data management computer and the image transmission device via the network (i.e., **Fig. 1, Client system 102 is connected via a network 100 to the document management workstation 108 and the fax machine 110**), and the second transmission unit of the image transmission device (i.e., **712 of Fig. 7 , Network Interface**) transmits the transmitted image data transmitted to the one or plurality of transmittee devices (i.e.,

Art Unit: 2625

Col. 7 Lines 1-2, Network interface sends original document representation) and transmit data to the external stand-alone transmission data management computer when the at least one additional external stand-alone computer sends image data to the one or plurality of devices via the image transmission device.(i.e., , When the data is sent through the image transmission device the)

Hull '477 or Hibino '675 do not explicitly teach the at least one additional external stand-alone computer configured to send image data to the one or plurality of devices via the image transmission device.

However, the mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Hirata '582 In particular, Hirata '582 teaches the use of one additional external stand-alone computer (i.e., **1 of Fig. 1, Computer**) configured to send image data to the one or plurality of devices via the image transmission device (i.e., **Col. 2 Lines 58-64,Computer sends image data to transmission device which sends image data to a facsimile device**).

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the system of Hull '477 as taught by Hibino '675 and Hirata '582 since Hirata '582 suggested in Col. 1 Lines 49-68 that such a modification would provide an improved communication control unit.

With respect to **Claim 13**, Hull '477 teaches the transmission data management system (i.e., **Fig. 1**) wherein the at least one additional external stand-alone computer (i.e., **102 of Fig. 1,Client Computer**) is configured to access the image data and transmit data that have been transmitted to the external stand-alone transmission

Art Unit: 2625

data management computer via the network (i.e., Col. 3 Lines 4-8 , image data is collected and stored in the external data management computer where the client system may browse the documents via the network 100)

With respect to **Claim 14**, Hull '477 teaches the transmission data management system (i.e., Fig. 1) further comprising a scanner (i.e., 106 of Fig. 1, Digital Copier comprising a scanner) and a printer (i.e., 112 of Fig. 1, Printer) being connected to the at least one additional external stand-alone computer (i.e., 102 of Fig. 1, Client System) and the external stand-alone transmission data management (i.e., 108 of Fig. 1, Document Management Workstation) computer via the network (i.e., 100 of Fig. 1, LAN).

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure, (See PtO-892).
7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a). A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

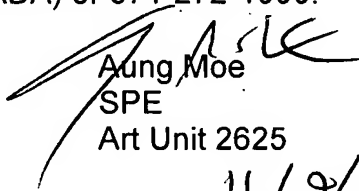
Art Unit: 2625

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis Dicker whose telephone number is (571) 270-3140. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Friday 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Aung Moe can be reached on (571) 272-7314. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


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Art Unit 2625
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